

ESSAY EXAMINATION

Essay Subjects and Timing

The essay portion of the July 2010 Arizona Bar Examination will be given on Tuesday, July 27, 2010. It consists, in total, of twelve questions. Six questions will be presented during the three hour morning session, and another six in the three hour afternoon session. The material for each session will be provided to you in a plastic pouch containing the six questions, six answer booklets, and scrap paper. The test is a secure examination protected by U.S. copyright laws and you will return the test booklet to the Examinations Committee upon completion of each session (morning and afternoon).

All questions are suggested to be read and answered in 30 minutes each. Subjects may be combined with other subjects in a question or may be separate. Subjects that may be included are: contracts (including the Uniform Commercial Code except Articles 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8); torts; criminal law; constitutional aspects of criminal procedure; corporations, partnerships and other business organizations; trusts; wills; professional responsibilities; civil procedure; constitutional law (Arizona and federal); evidence; real property; and community property.

Answering Essay Questions

Unless the question expressly states to the contrary, apply the law as it exists in Arizona. Each answer should demonstrate your ability to analyze the facts presented by the question, to differentiate between material and immaterial facts, and to discern the facts upon which the question turns. It should show your knowledge and understanding of the pertinent principles and theories of law (including, where appropriate, Rules of Professional Conduct), their relationship to each other, and their qualifications and limitations. It should evidence your ability to apply the law to the facts presented and to reason in a lawyer-like manner to a sound conclusion. It should demonstrate your proficiency in using and applying legal principles rather than a mere memory of them. You may, but need not, cite legal authority in support of your answer. State fully the reasons that support your answer. All points should be thoroughly discussed.

If you handwrite, write your answer to each question in a separate answer booklet. You will be provided with six answer booklets in the morning, identified as Questions 1 through 6. The afternoon material will consist of six answer booklets, identified as Questions 7 through 12. Be sure to use the appropriate answer booklet, and be careful not to write a different answer in the same booklet.

Write single spaced in the essay answer booklets on the right side pages of the answer booklet, and use the left side pages for any inserts or corrections you may have. Continuation booklets will be available.

Only the material that appears on the pages of the answer and continuation booklets will be considered in determining your grade. Do not write your answers on scrap paper. Answer material you write on scrap paper, even if left in the answer booklet, will not be considered in determining your score.

If you use your laptop computer, you will copy your answers to the USB flash drive provided after each session.

MULTISTATE BAR EXAMINATION

Subjects and Timing

This portion of the July 2010 Arizona Bar Examination will be administered on Wednesday, July 28, 2010.

The MBE material will consist of a sealed test booklet, with an enclosed answer sheet. No other material will be provided or permitted. Scrap paper will not be provided or permitted in accordance with the policy of the National Conference of Bar Examiners ("NCBE").

The morning and afternoon sessions are three hours each, with 100 questions in each session. The subject areas, randomly dispersed throughout the 200 questions, are constitutional law, contracts, criminal law and procedure, evidence, real property, and torts, as described in the MBE information available from the NCBE at www.ncbex.org or 1-608-280-8550.

Answering MBE Questions

Questions on the Multistate Bar Examination are designed to be answered by applying fundamental legal principles rather than local case or statutory law. All questions are multiple choice; you are to choose the best answer from the four stated alternatives.

Mark your answers on the computer encoded sheet using the No. 2 black lead pencils provided. Scrap paper is not allowed for the Multistate Bar Examination but you may make notations in the test booklet.

GRADING AND SCORING

Essay Examination

The Examinations Committee members (Examiners) are responsible for the grading of the essay questions. After the bar examination, the Examiners and their graders conduct calibration sessions using a random sampling of the total answers. After the calibrations and review against the issues, the answers are distributed among the Committee's graders for each question. The only identification on the answer books is your applicant number that will be given to you during registration. None of the Examiners or graders is provided any other information about you.

Each essay examination answer is awarded a numerical grade from 0 (lowest) to 6 (highest). The numerical grade for each essay examination answer will be multiplied by 1.5 to yield a point value between 0 and 9.

Multistate Bar Examination

Grading of the Multistate Bar Examination is performed by a national testing service under the auspices of the NCBE. The testing service conducts the scoring, including the scaling process, and provides the Committee with the results. Your MBE score will be reported to the first decimal place. All answer sheets are centrally scored by machine regardless of the jurisdiction in which the applicant writes the MBE. Raw to scaled score conversions are identical for every jurisdiction for the same administration of the MBE, but the scaling conversion will differ between each MBE administration dependent on the performance of the national pool of applicants, and the ease or difficulty level of the questions as compared to previous MBE questions.

Computation of Total Scores

After all your essay answers are graded, they are summed, multiplied by 1.5, and converted, via standard deviation, to a scaled essay score, to the first decimal point, based on the MBE scale. Your scaled essay score, because it receives twice as much weight as the MBE portion, will be doubled, and added to your MBE scaled score. You must achieve a combined score of 410 points or more of the possible 600 points to pass the Arizona Bar Examination.
